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Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance: comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

United against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

The General Assembly,

Adopts the following political declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action:[1]

United against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

We, Heads of State and Government and representatives of States and Governments, gathered at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 22 September 2011, on the occasion of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,[1]

1. Reaffirm that the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted in 2001, and the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference[2] adopted in 2009, are a comprehensive United Nations framework and solid foundation for combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

2. Recall that the aim of this commemoration is to mobilize political will at the national, regional and international levels and reaffirm our political commitment to the full and effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme

[1] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.
[2] See A/CONF.211/8, chap. I.

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of Action and the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, and their follow-up processes, at all these levels;

3. Welcome the progress achieved in many parts of the world in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance since 2001;

4. Acknowledge that in spite of concerted efforts by the international community in the past ten years, building on efforts of the past decades, the scourge of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including its new forms and manifestations, still persists in all parts of the world, and that countless human beings continue to the present day to be victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

5. Reaffirm that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance constitute a negation of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and that equality and non-discrimination are fundamental principles of international law;

6. Recall to that effect the importance of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and its Committee, as well as of universal ratification and effective implementation of the Convention;

7. Resolve to pursue our common goal of ensuring the effective enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, especially for victims of racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia and related intolerance in all societies;

8. Welcome the initiative to erect a permanent memorial to honour the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade;

9. Reiterate that the primary responsibility for effectively combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance lies with States;

10. Welcome the adoption of legislative measures and the establishment of specialized national mechanisms to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

11. Call upon the United Nations system, international and regional organizations, and invite all stakeholders, including, inter alia, parliaments, civil society and the private sector, to fully commit themselves and to intensify their efforts in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and welcome the continued engagement of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to incorporate the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action into the United Nations system;

12. Proclaim together our strong determination to make the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and the protection of the victims thereof, a high priority for our countries.